

Assistance to Fire Fighters Fact Sheet

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG)

- Provides an authorization of \$1 billion per fiscal year from FY 2010 to FY 2014.
- Requires FEMA to apportion the total appropriation for AFG, minus 3 percent for administrative costs, in the following manner: 25 percent for career fire departments, 25 percent for combination fire departments; 25 percent for volunteer fire departments; 10 percent for Fire Prevention and Safety Grants; 2 percent for volunteer, non-fire service EMS and rescue operations; 3 percent for state fire training academies; and the 10 percent remaining open for competition among all types of fire departments.
- Sets the matching requirements at 10 percent for applicants from jurisdictions of a population of 20,000 or more, and at 5 percent for jurisdictions with populations of less than 20,000.
- Sets the maximum allowable size for AFG grants depending on the population of the area served by the applicants.
- Sets the maintenance of budget requirement at 80 percent or above the applicant's previous two fiscal year budgets.
- Gives the FEMA Director authority to, in exceptional circumstances, issue waivers to departments that are unable to meet the matching requirement or the maintenance of budget requirement.

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Program

- Provides an authorization of \$1.194 billion per fiscal year from FY 2010 to FY 2014.
- Sets the grant period at three years (with the requirement that the fire department retain the hire for the entire three-year grant period).
- Sets the local matching requirement at 20 percent per year of the grant.
- Eliminates an artificial cap on the maximum allowable grant size per firefighter.
- Includes an economic hardship waiver for fire departments that are unable to meet the matching requirements or maintenance of budget requirements.

Contact my District offices for more information:

Centreville – 443 262-9136 - Salisbury – 410 334-3072 - Bel Air – 410 420 8822